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(FOUO 4/79)

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JPRS L/8644

4 September 1979

Worldwide Report

LAW OF THE SEA

(FOUO 4/79)



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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WORLDWIDE REPORT

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WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

USSR AGREES TO FISHERY DAMAGE COMPENSATION PROCEDURES WITH JAPAN

Tokyo ASAHI EVENING NEWS in English 30 Jul 79 p 1 OW

[Text] Moscow, (ASAHI SHIMBUN)--Japan and the Soviet Union reached agreement in principle of settling disputes over damage done by Soviet fishing boats to Japanese fishing boats and gear at a meeting here on Sunday. Japanese Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Michio Watanabe and Soviet Fishery Minister Vladimir Kamentsev held a final two-hour meeting Sunday to discuss the details.

Agreement in principle was reached on the following steps in connection with incidents which occurred in the past: (1) in cases where the names of the Soviet ships responsible are known, compensation will be studied on an individual basis; and (2) in cases where the Soviet ships concerned are not known, compensation will be studied on a group basis.

In answer to the strong request of Watanabe that Japanese fishermen detained by the Soviet Union be released, the Soviet Union agreed to release eight of the 10 presently detained. It was announced Sunday that the eight would be handed over to Japan at Anam port on Shikotan Island on Aug 3.

Regarding the other 10, the Soviet Union said it was preparing to release them at an early date. Watanabe's visit to the Soviet Union has thus resulted in a big step forward in Soviet-Japanese fishery relations. The Soviet Union said it would send an expert to Tokyo to expedite the solution of such fishery disputes and asked Japan to issue a visa for him as soon as possible.

The problem of kelp-gathering by Japanese fishermen off Kaigara Island was also discussed by Watanabe and Kamentsev, and Watanabe requested early settlement of the question. Kamentsev indirectly criticized the fact that Japan had connected the kelp question with the territorial problem.

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INTER-ASIAN AFFAIRS

JAPANESE TO QUERY PRC AMBASSADOR ON SENKAKU ISLANDS

OW150651 Tokyo MAINICHI DAILY NEWS in English 13 May 79 p 5 OW--FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

[Text] The Foreign Ministry will summon Chinese Ambassador to Tokyo Fu Hao to the Ministry early this week to make sure of the real intention of the Chinese Government with regard to the "joint development" of oil resources on the seabed around Senkaku Islands in the East China Sea.

The ministry has decided to take this action as Ambassador Fu reportedly made the remarks last week in Okinawa that Japan and China should discuss joint petroleum exploitation around the islands. The Chinese Embassy in Tokyo Friday disclosed that Ambassador Fu stated in Okinawa that it is high time that China and Japan started joint development of seabed oil resources in the area around Senkaku Islands without touching on the territorial question. The islands, lying in the East China Sea, are claimed by both Japan and China. At the moment Japan is holding the islands under its control.

The Foreign Ministry has decided to get in touch with Ambassador Fu on the "joint development" on the basis of its official attitude. Since Japan has concluded an agreement with South Korea on joint development of the continental shelf in the East China Sea, Japan indicated that it was ready to talk about the demarcation between Japan and China on the continental shelf. Although the Japanese Government had clarified this attitude, there had been no response from China until Ambassador Fu made the remarks in Okinawa last week. According to Foreign Ministry sources, it is believed that China will not raise the territorial question in connection with the joint development of oil resources around Senkaku Islands although China has not recognized Japan's sovereignty over the islands. China's official attitude is that the solution to the territorial question of Senkaku Islands should be left to future generations. The Foreign Ministry is intending to ascertain whether Ambassador Fu's reported statement really reflected the decision of Chinese top leaders and what the Chinese specific plan is for the joint development.

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INTER-ASIAN AFFAIRS

OKINAWA GOVERNOR CALLS FOR 'EFFECTIVE RULE' OF SENKAKUS

OW091425 Tokyo ASAHI SHIMBUN in Japanese 9 Jun 79 Morning Edition p 3 OW--
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[Text] Okinawa Prefectural Governor Junji Nishime has expressed dissatisfaction over the government's decision to wind up an academic survey of the Senkaku Islands earlier than scheduled in response to China's protest. Replying to a question on the Senkakus survey raised by Saneyoshi Furugen (acting chairman of the Communist Party's Okinawa Prefectural Committee) at a regular plenary session of the prefectural assembly on 8 June, Governor Nishime said: "The government could more vigorously push ahead with effective rule of the islands."

In his question, Furugen asked: "What do you think of the incoherency in the views expressed by government quarters in connection with the survey by the Okinawa Development Agency?" The governor replied: "I cannot understand it. The Senkaku Islands are Japan's inherent territory and I think the government could more vigorously push ahead with effective rule of the islands." He added: "I will work on the government to build a shelter port on Uotsurijima of the Senkaku Islands."

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CHINESE OFFICIAL STATES CHINA'S VIEW ON SENKAKUS UNCHANGED

OW251444 Tokyo MAINICHI DAILY NEWS in English 24 May 79 p 1 OW--FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

[Text] Beijing, KYODO--A high government official said Tuesday Beijing [as received] holds the view both China and Japan have agreed not to make a territorial issue of the Senkaku Islands for the time being. The official made the remark when asked to comment on the Japanese Government's plan to build a heliport on the islands south of Okinawa. "China's attitude toward this question remains unchanged. This means the two countries have agreed to shelve their territorial claims to the islands," the official said.

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INTER-ASIAN AFFAIRS

JAPAN'S FOREIGN MINISTRY STUDIES JOINT DEVELOPMENT OF SENKAKUS

Full-Scale Study Started

Tokyo YOMIURI SHIMBUN in Japanese 16 Jul 79 Morning Edition p 2 OW

[Excerpts] Following Foreign Minister Sonoda's disclosure of his design for Japan and China to jointly develop resources in the waters around the Senkaku Islands as part of Japan's long-term oil procurement policies, the Foreign Ministry's business-level workers have begun a full-scale study of the possible project. As a basic step, the ministry has temporarily decided to set the zone of the development project in the open sea outside of the 12-mile territorial waters of the Senkaku Islands and to exclude any Taiwan-related sea areas from the zone. The ministry is now hastily contacting ministries, agencies, and business circles concerned to adjust their opinions and consolidate Japan's own position before making a proposal to China for a joint survey program. The ministry has already sounded out China on the development project through unofficial channels and received the impression that it basically favors the project. Thus, the ministry now believes that a fundamental agreement can be reached with China with regard to the development plan. However, some officials in the ministry hold the view that it will take quite a while to implement the plan due to many uncertain factors, such as Taiwan's claim to territorial rights in the Senkaku Islands and China's funding capabilities.

In this context, to keep the selection of the development zone from becoming a crucial point and to avoid a dispute over territorial rights, the ministry has this time decided to set up the development zone in the open sea. By excluding territorial waters from the development zone, Japan believes that it can retain its "the-Senkakus-are-Japan's-inherent-territory" position and at the same time avoid the revival of arguments over territorial rights between Japan and China. The two countries had virtually agreed to shelve the territorial issue at the time of negotiations last year on their treaty of peace and friendship.

However, China has shown no official response yet to this Japanese plan. At a meeting with visiting Japan Socialist Party Vice Chairman Shimohira last month, Chinese Vice Premier Li Xiannian expressed his support for the joint development project, saying that the dispute over territorial rights should be shelved. Through Mr Seigo Hamano of the Liberal Democratic Party and several other nonofficial channels, China has indicated its active response. Therefore, the Foreign Ministry now believes that the two countries will be able to reach a final agreement on the development plan.

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However, the ministry is also aware of many difficult problems accompanying a joint project. In determining the limits of a continental shelf, China and Japan adopt two opposing theories: China calls for the "natural extension" theory while Japan advocates a "middle line" doctrine. This will make the distribution of oil after its production more difficult. Thus, rough sailing is expected in future negotiations. In addition, some people question what priority China will give to this development project. They point out that China is working on many other oil development projects. A Foreign Ministry source says that "the key to success lies in our ability to work out a foolproof, elaborate plan." The project will surely face many difficult problems.

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'MAINICHI' Comment

Tokyo MAINICHI DAILY NEWS in English 20 Jul 79 p 2 OW

[Editorial: "Sino-Japanese Cooperation"]

[Excerpts] Chinese Vice Premier Li Xiannian has disclosed China's willingness to introduce foreign capital and also for the joint Sino-Japanese development of marine resources near the Senkaku Islands. During his meeting with a MAINICHI SHIMBUN delegation headed by President Toshio Hiracka, Li said: "The joint development is an idea by Japanese friends. We support the idea fully because it called for the development of natural resources while putting aside the pending territorial problems."

Various difficult problems remain to be solved before actual implementation of foreign capital introduction and joint natural resources development. We can interpret Li's statement as his expression of the hope that China places in Japan in promoting China's modernization programs from the long-range viewpoint. China and Japan must promote cooperation in possible spheres by mutually examining various problems facing them.

In his reports on government activities made at the latest meeting of the National People's Congress, Premier Hua Guofeng emphasized the importance of the introduction of modern technology and also active use of foreign capital as one of the 10-point economic development programs. The meeting approved the bill calling for the establishment of joint venture companies between Chinese and foreign companies. The joint venture law was put into practice simultaneously with its promulgation, indicating China's enthusiasm to introduce foreign technology and capital.

The establishment of the joint venture law by China, a socialist country, means a significant policy change by Beijing because the law can be applied in capitalist nations. The law stipulated that the investment ratio of foreign shareholders would not be lower than 25 percent. Vice Premier Li also said that 100 percent investment by foreigners would not run counter to the socialist policy line.

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At present, some 10 Japanese companies including electronics, electric machinery and textile manufacturers reportedly plan to participate in joint ventures with the Chinese. Electric machinery companies plan to establish joint ventures with China to pave the way for the possible export of electronics plants and the expansion of technological cooperation.

Judging from the general trend, however, there is only a small possibility for a rapid expansion of Sino-Japanese joint ventures merely by the establishment of the joint venture law.

For the promotion of joint ventures, some adjustments will be necessary in the labor law, tax agreement and investment guarantee agreement. Some may have a doubt as to the smooth recovery of capital because China is a socialist nation.

The joint development concept of the Senkaku Islands came to the fore at a regular cabinet meeting July 10. Transport Minister Kinji Moriyama said: "I believe the Senkaku Islands belong to Japan but to cope with the possible oil shortage, I think we can promote joint development of the island area with China." To this, Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda remarked: "I want to promote the joint venture idea with China while putting aside the territorial problems." Chinese Vice Premier Li's statement was an apparent answer to this.

With the energy problem becoming serious and since we must rely on oil for some time, it is essential for probing and development of underground resources to be carried out. According to a survey of the United Nations Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE) or present-day Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (ESCAP), in 1969, the area around the Senkaku Islands was estimated to have rich untapped oil resources.

We believe that a practical and constructive solution of various difficult problems based on Sino-Japanese Friendship will pave the way for actual joint development.

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PRC Expresses Interest

Tokyo THE JAPAN TIMES in English 20 Jul 79 p 5 OW

[Text] Beijing--Chinese Vice Premier Wang Zhen told a Japanese dietman Tuesday that China would agree to a Japanese proposal for joint development of undersea oil resources off the disputed Senkaku Islands if conditions were "reasonable" it was learned Wednesday.

In more specific statement, Wang said that the joint oil development formula in Bohai Bay of the Yellow Sea which were now under negotiations between Japan and China could be applied to the proposed development plan for the Senkaku Islands.

Wang said that China wanted to have Japan's assurances that the joint project would be carried out on "reasonable" conditions to satisfy China's interest as well.

The Beijing leader made these remarks at a meeting with Yutaka Hata, deputy secretary-general of the moderate opposition Social Democratic Federation at the People's Great Hall.

Informed sources said that the two countries have agreed at the negotiations for the Bohai Bay project that Japan on its part would offer a total of about yen 400 billion for exploitation and production of oil there, whereas China would export about 2 million tons of crude to Japan a year.

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Wang's reference to the Bohai Bay development formula raised the question whether he regarded the Senkaku Islands as Chinese territory.

Despite Tokyo's repeated protests, both China and Taiwan lay claim to the island group located between Okinawa and Taiwan; Japan has long controlled the island group and asserts that it is an integral part of its territory.

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PRC Intentions Questioned

Tokyo ASAHI EVENING NEWS in English 24 Jul 79 p 1 OW

[Text] Strong objections are arising within the government to an early, hasty implementation of the plan for the joint Sino-Japanese development of undersea oil reserves around the disputed Senkaku Islands in the East China Sea. Opponents feel that it has become clear that China has in mind a development formula which will lead to the dispute over the ownership of the islands being shelved. Japan has proposed establishing joint development zones on the assumption that the islands are Japanese territory. Some officials even suspect that the series of proposals China has made in connection with the scheme may be a ploy to bolster its weak position in the territorial dispute. They speculate that China may be trying to create a condition of de facto joint ownership of the islands. The Japanese Embassy in Beijing has been instructed to try to determine what China's intentions are.

The joint development plan surfaced as a policy matter when Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda endorsed it at a cabinet meeting on July 10, but the idea had been broached by top Chinese officials to Japanese politicians and business leaders who visited Beijing in May and June. In a meeting on June 17 with Shoichi Shimodaira, vice chairman of the Japan Socialist Party, Chinese Deputy Premier Li Xiannian (Li Hsien-nien) said the joint development of undersea oil reserves around the Senkaku Islands in a way that will not touch on the territorial issue will serve as a step toward a resolution of the dispute "in our generation."

Wang Zhen (Wang Chen), another Chinese deputy premier, proposed the application of the Bohai Bay formula to the Senkaku scheme when he met Yutaka Hata, deputy secretary-general of the United Social Democratic Party, on July 17. The Bohai Bay formula calls for Japan to provide financial and technical assistance in developing undersea oil reserves in Chinese territorial waters and to receive oil as repayment. Those Japanese officials who advocate caution say consenting to the application of the formula to the Senkaku undertaking may imply acknowledgement of Chinese sovereignty over the islands, 140 kilometers east of Taiwan. They also note these points:

1. In their statements on the joint development plan, Chinese leaders specifically referred to "resources around the Senkaku Islands," when saying that continental shelf oil reserves in the East China Sea were not restricted to the neighborhood of the disputed islands. Compared with senior Chinese Deputy Premier Deng Xiaoping's earlier statement that the resolution of the Senkaku dispute should be left to the next generation, the recent Chinese proposals clearly constitute a policy change.

2. Chinese leaders began broaching the idea of joint development just after Japan conducted a survey of the Senkakus in late May. China apparently recognized that it was in a weak position in the dispute and decided to change its tactics.

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3. There is little need for China to start work promptly on developing the reserves around the Senkakus. Vast oil reserves have been confirmed on land, and developing them ought to be given priority. Experts here say China should have its hands full with the present undersea oil projects.

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'MAINICHI' CITES HAN NIANLONG REMARKS ON SENKAKUS DEVELOPMENT

Tokyo MAINICHI SHIMBUN in Japanese 15 Jul 79 Morning Edition p 1 OW

[Excerpt] Beijing, 14 Jul--A MAINICHI SHIMBUN news coverage team visiting China met separately with Wu Xiuquan, Chinese PLA deputy chief of general staff, and Vice Foreign Minister Han Nianlong on 14 July and exchanged frank views. In his interview, Vice Foreign Minister Han commented on Japan's plan to develop underwater oil resources around the Senkaku Islands in cooperation with China and said, "It will be good for both sides to talk and decide on it." Thus he clarified China's intention to comply with Japan's proposal for talks.

In the course of negotiations for concluding a peace and friendship treaty, Japan and China agreed to shelve the question of territorial ownership over the Senkaku Islands. A rich oilfield is reportedly buried near the islands but its development is made impossible because of the agreement to shelve the territorial ownership question.

Recently, Foreign Minister Sonoda indicated Japan's active posture toward joint development of the area and now Vice Minister Han has shown China's forward-looking attitude, making a proposed Japan-China joint development in a concrete shape possible.

Replying to a question in the interview, Vice Minister Han first explained how the Senkaku Islands' ownership question had come to be shelved. He again stressed that the two countries should not argue over the territorial ownership question, saying, "This question is a small one and we should not let this hamper the development of relations between the two countries." He then said, "There is talk about jointly developing underground resources; and it will be good to decide on it through amicable talks between the two sides." Thus, he indicated China's intention to hold talks with Japan on the question of jointly developing undersea oil.

Last month, when he met with Japan Socialist Party Vice Chairman Shimodaira, Chinese Vice Premier Li Xiannian commented on this question and said, "Some Japanese have proposed joint development and we think it

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is an ingenious proposal." His statement thus favorably appraised the idea of joint development. Vice Minister Han's latest remarks are regarded as a step forward from Li's statement.

However, the vice foreign minister added, "It is desirable that action with regard to this question be taken through talks and one should refrain from taking unilateral action before holding talks." Thus, he criticized the Japanese Government's move to build a helicopter base on the Senkaku Islands and asked Japan to stop unilateral acts on developing the islands. At the same time, he said: "China found it imperative to express its attitude (toward the helicopter base issue) but has not said anything since then. I firmly believe that farsighted Japanese people understand this attitude taken by China." He thus stressed that China seeks Japan's cooperation with regard to the Senkaku Islands issue.

The area of the East China Sea, including the Senkaku Islands, is reportedly rich in oil resources and China is trying to develop seabed oil resources with the help of the United States, Japan and other nations. Japan is pinning great hopes on the development of that area but differences of opinion have arisen with China, South Korea or Taiwan over development rights.

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JAPAN

GOVERNMENT TO FINANCE OIL, GAS EXPLORATION OF CONTINENTAL SHELF

OW160553 Tokyo THE JAPAN TIMES in English 15 May 79 p 10 OW--FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

[Text] The government plans to spend 40 billion yen to 50 billion yen in the next five years for stepped up oil and gas exploration across Japan, mainly in the continental shelf, government sources said Monday. The natural resources and energy agency of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry [MITI] estimates oil and gas reserves in the nation's continental shelf, at a depth of up to 500 meters, at 1.3 billion kiloliters in terms of crude oil. This is enough to meet all of Japan's crude needs, covered mostly by imports, for four to five years.

The agency currently subsidizes 20 percent of the cost of test drilling on land for private companies. It is considering increasing the subsidies to 50 percent the sources said. The agency also plans to begin geological studies in the continental shelf and seismological exploration on hand in search of new oil and gas reserves through the government-financed Japan National Oil Corporation, they said.

These and other financial needs for the new energy development program are expected to total 40 billion yen 50 million yen (\$186 million-\$230 million), the sources said. About 130 test wells could be drilled in the five-year period, beginning fiscal 1980, they added. Official and private surveys have led to the discovery of more than 200 locations with prospective oil and gas deposits in the continental shelf off Japan -- equivalent to three-fourths of the nation's land space -- and over 150 spots on land.

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JAPAN

'ASAHI' EDITORIALIZES ON LAW OF SEA CONFERENCE

Tokyo ASAHI EVENING NEWS in English 21 Jul 79 p 2

[Editorial: "Marine Resources"]

[Text]

July 20 is "Sea Memorial Day." Japan, which is surrounded by water, is one of the top marine countries of the world, but it seems that the interest that we Japanese have in the sea is surprisingly low.

For instance, how many Japanese are aware of the significance of the eighth reopened meeting of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea which began in New York on July 19? To what extent do the Japanese understand what U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim meant when he said that, because it will have just as great an influence on the future of all mankind, only disarmament is more important than the law of the sea?

In order to overcome the energy crisis that Japan must deal with now, the Government, bureaucratic and business circles must all take greater notice of the fact that the sea contains untapped sources of strength equal to that of the Middle East and nuclear energy.

Discussions on the problem of exploiting deep seabed resources in the lengthy, conflict-filled U.N. Conference on the Law of the Sea have finally reached the last stages. The manganese nodules which lie on the beds of the oceans contain large amounts of copper, nickel and cobalt as well as manganese, and these are resources that Japan eagerly desires. Like Japan, the Western advanced nations, which have both the technical skill and capital needed, want to exploit these resources as soon as possible.

The developing countries, however, insist that the manganese nodules belong to all of mankind. They argue that this resource should be exploited by an international agency. But it now appears that a plan is shaping up at the Conference on the Law of the Sea. According to the plan, the private firms of advanced countries that will mine the nodules will hand over part of the profits to an international seabed authority which will oversee exploitation. Now the conflict has narrowed down to how much of the profits should go to the seabed authority.

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Developing countries are demanding what American representative Elliot Richardson calls an "outrageous, unrealistically large amount" of "payment."

At this time, the Japanese Government should adopt the following policy in the Conference on the Law of the Sea:

First, Japan should urge the advanced countries, particularly the United States, to be flexible so that an agreement can be reached. It should refrain from being overbearing as it was when it enacted a 200-mile fishing limit: First it set up its own domestic laws, carried out independent development and then used the established facts to pressure the Conference on the Law of the Sea.

Second, Japan should persuade the developing countries to be realistic. If they misuse the superiority of their numbers and refuse to make concessions, the conference could disintegrate. The developing countries must realize that if ever an "age of no sea laws" should come, the losses that the developing countries will suffer will be much greater than those of the advanced countries.

Third, the Communist bloc appears to be sympathetic toward the developing countries, but East-West confrontation should not be brought into this problem.

Fourth, Japan should consider the exploitation of deep seabed resources as a North-South problem and should be willing to contribute generously to the international enterprise which is to mine them.

Fifth, Japan has hitherto followed generally the same policy as the advanced countries, but from now on it should stand at the contact point for talks with the developing countries and should work to bring the two sides closer to each other.

Sixth, since Japan is a marine country, it should take steps now so that it will have an influential voice in the future in the international seabed authority.

Seventh, no matter what the conclusions of the Conference on the Law of the Sea may be, the day will definitely come when Japan itself will start collecting manganese nodules. In order to prepare for that day, the industrial circles must create the necessary system and must promote technical development.

Finally, there is need to increase interest within Japan concerning the great importance of the deep seabed resources—they are said to total between 500,000 to 1,000,000 million tons in the Pacific Ocean alone. The Government must take the lead in educating the people on this point. (July 20)

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JAPAN

BRIEFS

AUTHORITIES SEIZE TAIWAN BOAT--Naha, 7 Jun (KYODO)--A small Taiwan fishing boat with four men on board has been seized near Okinawa by Japanese maritime safety authorities, it was reported Thursday. According to the Eleventh District Maritime Safety Headquarters in Naha, the Taiwan boat was identified as the Hsin Ming Shen, 12.32 tons, which was found fishing Dorados in Japanese territorial waters about 10 kilometers north of Yonakuni Island in the Okinawa islands at about 10 pm Wednesday. Skipper Chang Chifu of the Taiwan boat has been arrested for violation of the fishing control law and his boat has been towed by a patrol boat to Ishigaki port. [Text] [Tokyo KYODO in English 0527 GMT 7 Jun 79 OW]

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INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

SENEGAL-GUINEA-BISSAU FISHING AGREEMENT--On 29 June the Senegalese National Assembly authorized the ratification of a maritime fishing agreement between Senegal and Guinea-Bissau. According to this agreement, these two nations grant each other the right to fish in both nations' territorial waters, up to a tonnage to be determined later. Senegal and Guinea-Bissau have also decided to set up a committee of experts for the granting of licenses and the definition of the criteria of nationality. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 6 Jul 79 p 1924]

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MOZAMBIQUE

BRIEFS

USSR-MOZAMBIQUE FISHING COMPANY--A Soviet-Mozambican fishing company originating in a protocol agreement recently signed between Maputo and Moscow will begin to operate with 8 boats under Mozambican flag; the name of the company is MOSOPESCA. Initial capitalization was set at 550,000 contos (approximately \$17 million), divided between the Mozambican state enterprise EMOPESCA (51 percent) and the USSR company SOVRIBFLOT (49 percent). Operations are planned for a minimum period of 5 years, with a total annual production of 6,000 tons of fish and 1,000 tons of shrimp. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 8 Jun 79 p 1565]

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NAMIBIA

BRIEFS

SOVIET TRAWLERS--Namibian fishing companies have requested the South African national Navy to patrol along the territory's coasts in order to survey the Soviet trawlers and factory-ships which are working in this region. Two South African newspapers, the CAPE ARGUS and the JOHANNESBURG STAR stated on 2 May that Soviet trawlers were operating just north of the port of Walvis Bay. According to these newspapers, this fleet would sometimes venture within the protected 12-mile zone. It should be remembered that, in recent years, the Namibian coast and the South Atlantic Ocean have been subjected to overfishing, particularly by the Soviets. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 11 May 79 p 1206] 7619

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